

Spanish at St Merryn School



Modern Foreign Languages at St Merryn School



Why teach a Modern Foreign Language?



At St Merryn School, we believe that the learning of a Modern Foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills, including key skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing, as well as extending the children's knowledge of how languages work. The linguistic skills gained also assist and lay foundations for further language learning. Studying another language gives children a new and broader perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others.

'Languages play a vital role in giving young people the skills, understanding and confidence to support employment and prosperity.' British Council, Language Trends 2021

'The number of people learning a language in Britain has risen twice as fast as the rest of the world in the last year.' The Guardian, December 2020

Why Spanish?



'Spanish is the second-most spoken native language in the world with nearly 500 million native speakers.'

'Spanish is the third most-used language on the internet.'

'Spanish has official status in 21 countries.'

'In 2019 Spain was the most popular destination for people from the UK with more than 18 million visitors.' Wikipedia June 2021

'At A level, Spanish entries have increased by almost 5% from 2018, overtaking French as the most popular language for the first time since A levels began...Since 2005, French and German have both experienced steep declines, but Spanish has grown almost year on year. Spanish also enjoys a higher percentage of GCSE pupils continuing to A level...almost one in every ten candidates of GCSE Spanish chooses to continue with the language to A level.' The British Council, Language Trends 2020

Aims and Objectives



The aims and objectives of learning Spanish at St Merryn School are to:

- Foster an interest in learning other languages
- Introduce young children to Spanish in a way that is enjoyable and fun
- Stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language
- Encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure differs from one language to another
- Help the children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries
- Develop speaking and listening skills
- Lay the foundation for future study

The children are taught how to:

- Ask and answer questions
- Hold a brief conversation in Spanish in pairs and in groups
- Memorise words and phrases
- Interpret meaning

- Use bi-lingual dictionaries
- Look at the similarities and differences between life in Spanish-speaking countries and Britain.

Teaching Spanish at St Merryn School



Spanish is taught to children in KS2 by our MFL co-ordinator. To promote an active learning of languages a range of teaching methods are implemented to ensure that the children are developing their linguistic skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing in order to be secondary ready. This includes games, role-play, songs, rhymes, stories, drama activities, grammar tasks, engaging with video clips, air

writing, investigating sentence structure, dictionary work, book making, use of apps on iPads and many more creative ways to extend, embed and combine language skills.

The Curriculum

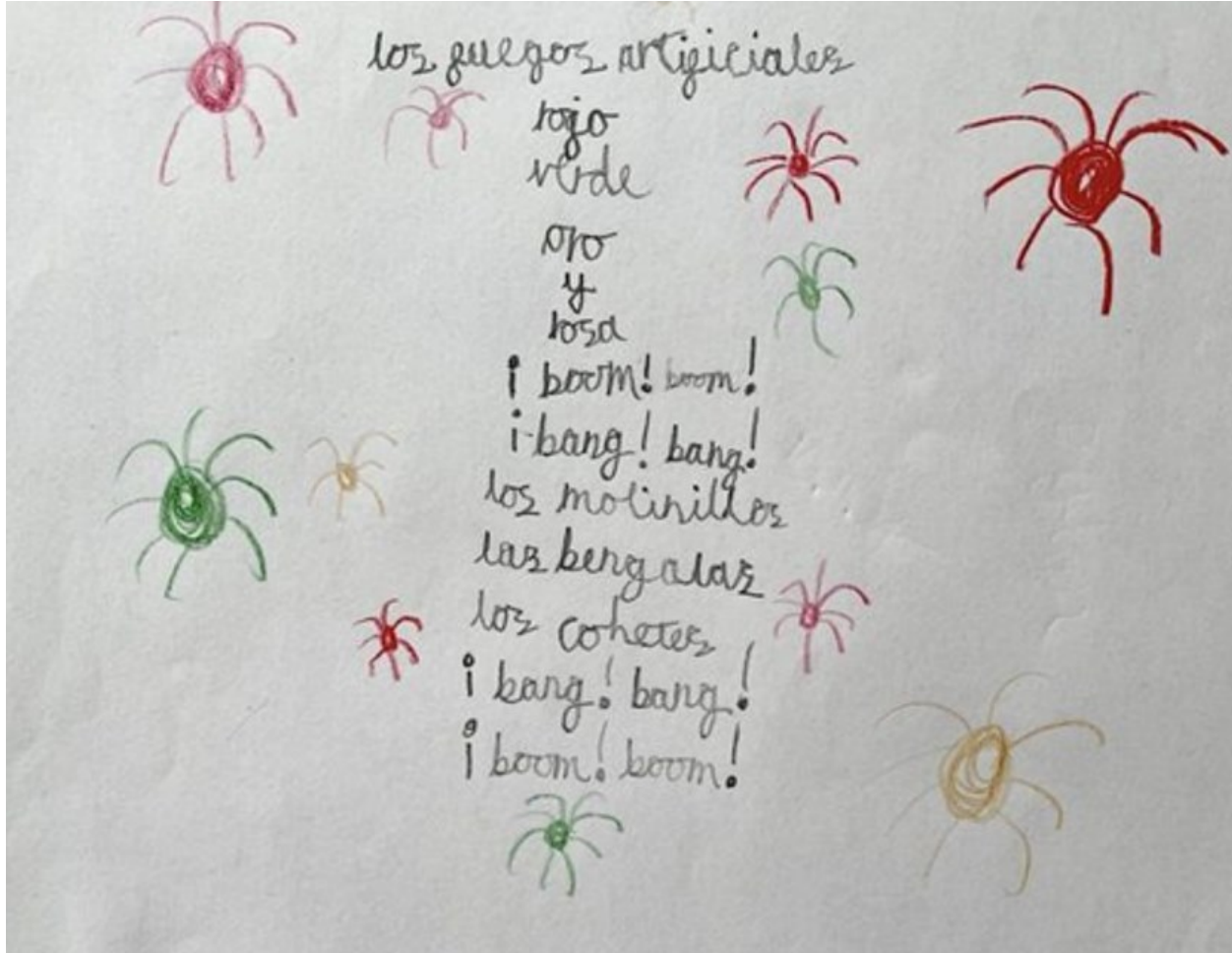


Our school follows the Primary Languages Network scheme of work. It is a live scheme which is continually updated and revised in order to meet with current curriculum standards.

We have adapted the scheme of work to enable our mixed-age year groups to learn about a variety of different topics and to continue to make progress with their language learning skills across Key Stage 2.

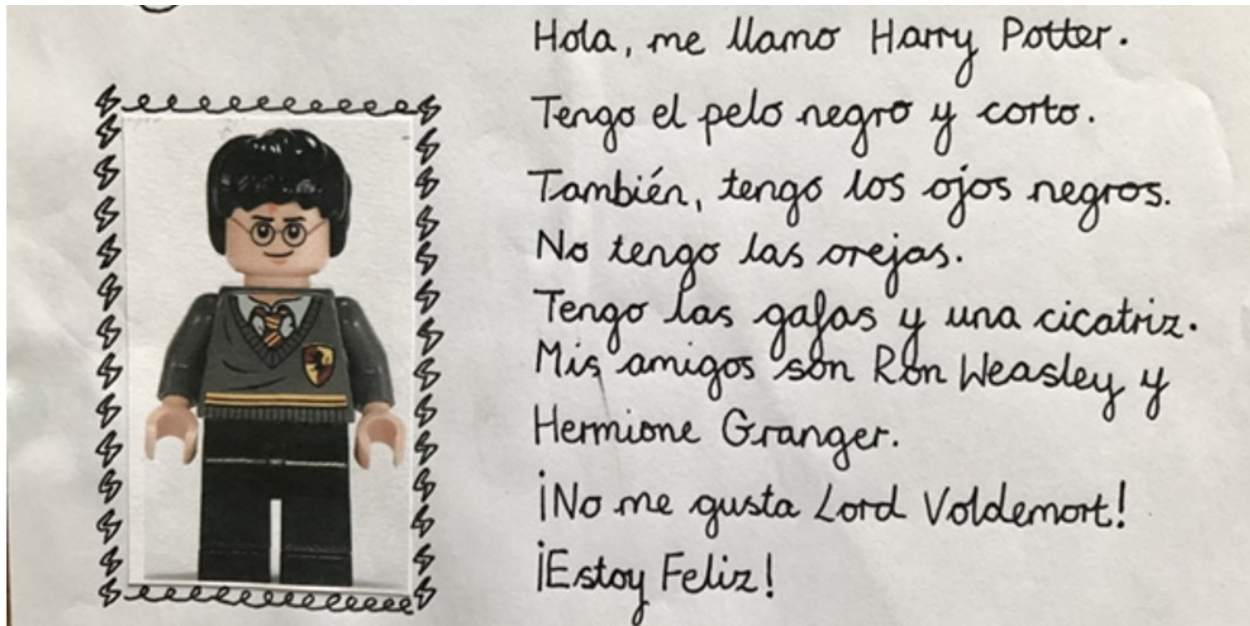
	Au1	Au2	Sp1	Sp2	Su1	Su2
Starlings (Year3/4) Year 1			Getting to know you	Days in the town	Pets	The Hungry Giant
Starlings (Year3/4) Year 2			Getting to know the class	Calendar and birthdays	Jungle animals	Map explorers / Going on a picnic
Kestrels (Year 4/5) Year 1	School time	Celebrations Bonfire night poetry Christmas	Weather	Carnival; playground games		
Kestrels (Year 4/5) Year 2	School super heroes	Dia de los muertos Christmas	Epiphany; I don't feel well	Numbers; Ice cream		
Barn Owls (Year 5/6) Year 1	Alien Family	Vivo en St Merryn Christmas, including song			Out of this world	Out of this world
Barn Owls (Year 5/6) Year 2	Parts of the body	Halloween and all things spooky... Christmas shopping			Going to the seaside	Going to the seaside

Continuing Personal Development



The MFL coordinator attends (as part of the Primary Languages Network) coordinators' CPD and the annual PLN virtual five-day conference.

Assessment



Summative and ongoing assessments of language skills are made throughout KS2. Pupil progress is tracked at regular intervals, with informal feedback given to pupils and class teachers.

Links to EYFS



In the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) pupils 'learn to recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries' as part of 'Understanding the World' (Development Matters, September 2020).

An example of this is Robins class celebrating World Music Day in 2021 by learning to Flamenco dance.